Pepsi joint venture with Duncan

2756. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the exports will be three times the imports including Pepsi concentrates packaging materials etc., of Pepsi joint venture with Goenka's of Duncan;

(b) whether this proposal is consistent with the present import policy; and

(c) whether import of soft drink concentrates (like Pepsi) is allowed, if so, in what category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) M/s Agro Products Exports India Private Limited had submitted an application for manufacture and export of Aspetic packaging of 10 per cent Fruit Juice Products and Processed Agro-based Products in collaboration with Pepsico Incorporated of USA. This application was rejected by the Government. In view of this, replies to parts (a) to (c) do not arise.

Pepsico tie-up

2757. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the 'Economic Times' dated the 22nd April, 1985 regarding Pepsico tie-up;

(b) whether the import licensing policy be changed for exports by Pepsi or they would be governed by what is specified in the present import policy; and

(c) whether the use of foreign trade mark Pepsi Cola has been permitted for internal sales?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There was an application by M/s. Agro Products Exports India Private Limited for manufacture and export of Aspetic packaging of 10 per cent fruit juice products and Processed Agro-based Products, in Collaboration with Pepsico Incorporated of USA. This application was rejected by the Government. In view of this, there is no question of import or export by Pepsi or use of foreign trademark 'Pepsi Cola'.

Assistance to bio-gas plants by KVIC

2758. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that releases of large subsidies to several bio-gas plants by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) recently were made for the plants which do not exist and that a number of cases of misutilisation of steel and cement allocated for bio-gas plants have recently come to light; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the action taken by Government to identify the persons involved in the rackets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The KVIC decided to carry out a random census of bio-gas plants constructed under its aegis in Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra in 14 selected districts with a view to knowing the status of plants constructed and to know the extent of non-working plants and the reasons therefor to enable them to provide guidance for corrective steps to be taken in further implementation of the programme. Accordingly, 13216 plants were covered by the Audit Party sent by the Commission for random checking and it found that in Maharashtra out of the total plants of 7299 covered in the report, 134 were not traceable. In Tamil Nadu out of the total of 1979 bio-gas plants checked, 87 plants were not traceable. In Bihar, 3938 plants were covered by the random checking and 605 plants were not traceable at the time of census. Further investigation in the plants suggest that in some cases the beneficiaries might have